CANADIAN
MOVING PICTURE DIGEST

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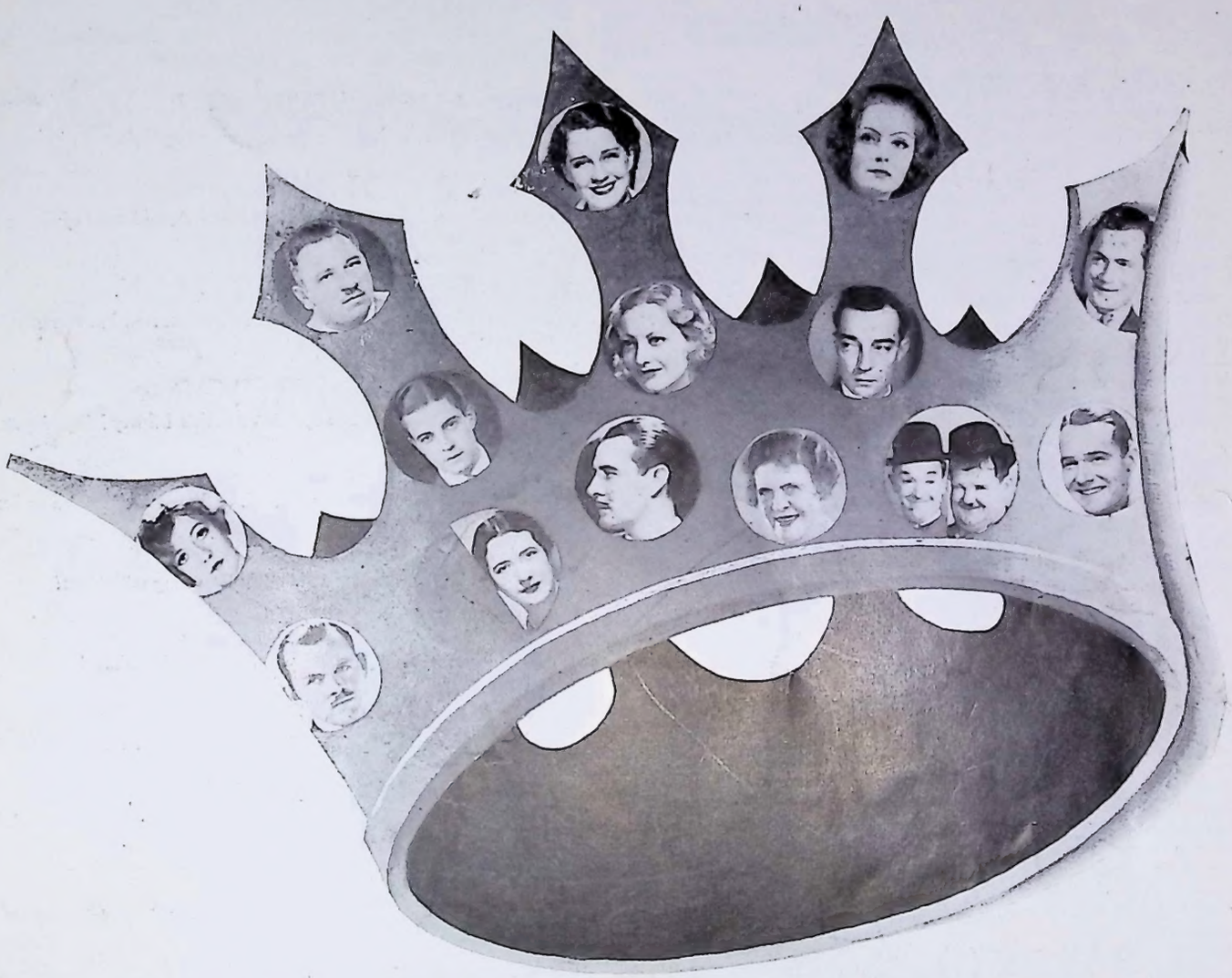


WEAR IT IN 1931-1932!

(See Inside Cover)

PUBLISHED BY
CANADIAN MOVING PICTURE DIGEST COMPANY LIMITED
259 SPADINA AVENUE, TORONTO 2

THE CROWNING GLORY of Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer in 1931-32

(we're using this phrase because we sincerely believe it to be truly descriptive)

48 PRODUCTIONS — (NOTE: This is the revised list of M-G-M Pictures for 1931-32)

30 Star Productions

MARION DAVIES (2)
Her latest release of the current season, Fannie Hurst's "Five and Ten," is typical of strong dramatic vehicles for her in the coming year.

NORMA SHEARER (2)
At the top! One hit after another! "Divorcee," "Let Us Be Gay," "Strangers May Kiss," and watch for "A Free Soul" another sensation!

GRETA GARBO (2)
The One and Only Garbo! Her magnetic appeal is unique in the industry! "Romance" and "Inspiration" will be topped next season by wonderful vehicles available!

JOAN CRAWFORD (2)
She's just signed a long term contract with M-G-M! And she's got stories even better than "Paid" and "Dance Fools Dance" coming in the new season!

JOHN GILBERT (3)
Of which two will be "Cheri-Bibi" the powerful story by Gaston Leroux, and "Candlelight" the Broadway stage hit! Gilbert's steady march back to top ranking is certain with such dramas!

WILLIAM HAINES (3)
You'll be surprised! We've got production plans for Bill Haines that will make this happy American favorite bigger than ever!

BUSTER KEATON (2)
Consistently outstanding comedies "Free and Easy," "Doughboys," "Parlor, Bedroom and Bath" have won him a new and greater-than-ever following!

ROBT. MONTGOMERY (3)
The Star Makers of M-G-M have done it again! "Shipmates" is cleaning up! Two of handsome Bob Montgomery's vehicles next season are the stage hit "The Truth Game" and "Huddle" the magazine story!

RAMON NOVARRO (2)
His popularity never wanes! His charm and personality keep for him an ever loyal public. Novarro's vehicles for the new year are powerful choices, to be produced on a big scale!

WALLACE BEERY (2)
M-G-M grooms them. The public makes them stars after hits like "The Big House" and "The Secret Six." Wallace Beery has shown the industry this year what he's going to mean to box-offices next season!

LAWRENCE TIBBETT (1)
He has brought into theatres thousands of folks who don't ordinarily attend. And they keep coming ever after. He's a new, wholesome appeal that America likes!

LUNT-FONTANNE (1)
The greatest acting team in the world! The Theatre Guild Stars at last agree to appear in talkies and naturally they pick the leading company to make their debut!

LAUREL-HARDY (1)
By public demand! Laurel-Hardy in a feature length comedy "Pardon Us." Audiences asked for it. Hal Roach and M-G-M waited for the right story. And now it's completed and it's a riot!

COSMOPOLITAN (4)
Cosmopolitan is a success name! "Big House," "White Shadows," "Broadway Melody," "Secret Six" are just a few. Next season, among others comes "Skyscraper Souls" from the thrill-novel and serial!

Special Information Forthcoming About

MARIE DRESSLER PRODUCTIONS

13 Exceptional Pictures

FLYING HIGH
The sensational stage hit, a year on Broadway, filmed with its great star Bert Lahr!

THE CHRISTIAN
Hall Caine's immortal soul-novel perfect for talkies!

BOARDING SCHOOL
Ritzy young folks learn about life and love! A new locale dramatized by M-G-M showmanship!

THE AWAKENING
John Van Druten, writer of stage hits, clicks again!

NIGHT COURT
Human destinies judged while a city sleeps! A gold mine of drama by Mark Hellinger, Charles Beahan.

RED HEADED WOMAN
We bought Katharine Brush's newest Satevepost serial in manuscript! Now it's a national sensation!

BRIDGE VS. BRIDGE
Divorce! Never so dramatically told as in this Liberty Magazine story!

AFTER ALL
Van Druten's big London stage hit. It will soon be presented on Broadway!

ARSENE LUPIN
The master-thief comes to talkies! Tod Browning will direct!

THREE WISE FOOLS
Broadway kept it packed a solid year! Perfect for talkies!

GUILTY HANDS
Bayard Veiller, author of "Paid" scores again with another audience idea!

THE SQUAW MAN
Cecil B. De Mille's Giant Production! Months in the making! A brilliant cast!

HONOLULU
The lure of tropical Honolulu dramatized in a lavish and thrilling production!

"The Marquee 5"

Five Big Productions attuned to the psychology of the entertainment hour!

The Crowning Glory of M-G-M SHORT SUBJECTS—'31-'32

LAUREL AND HARDY (8)
CHARLEY CHASE (8)
OUR GANG (8)
THE BOY FRIENDS (8)
ZASU PITTS, THELMA TODD (8)
DOGVILLE COMEDIES (6)
FITZPATRICK TRAVELTALKS (13)
FLIP THE FROG (12)
Cartoon Comedies
M-G-M SPORT CHAMPIONS (12)
FISHERMAN'S PARADISE (6)
SIR HARRY LAUDER (4)
HEARST METROTONE NEWS (104)
The super-newsreel of the newspaper, radio and screen, with which is incorporated THE GLOBE TROTTER.

METRO-GOLDWYN-MAYER

More Power To You!

Why 1715 EXHIBITORS *have changed to* "THE VOICE OF ACTION"

64 IN CANADA

42% made the change because poor reproduction of the first equipment drove away business.

29% made the change because investigation convinced them that the service and continuous dependable performance would make "The Voice of Action" the most dependable.

26% made the change because a survey of all equipments convinced them that "The Voice of Action" was the best.

3% made the change because the name, "The Voice of Action" has definite box office drawing power.

Change your theatre over now.

RESEARCH PRODUCTS SALES DEPARTMENT

637 CRAIG STREET WEST

MONTREAL

Northern Electric SOUND SYSTEM

The VOICE of ACTION

Western Electric in U. S. A.

British International Pictures Ltd.

Presents

THE MAN FROM CHICAGO

Fifth of the Famous "Imperial Eight Series" of British-Made Feature Pictures.

A Scotland Yard Story Packed Full of Thrills and Fast Action.

An Outstanding Cast, including Bernard Nedell, Joyce Kennedy, Albert Wheelan and Dodo Watts.

Distributed in Canada by Regal Films Limited

Another Milestone

"FRONT PAGE," starts off right from the first foot of film by being out of the ordinary, full of surprises, and original.

The introduction is in the spirit of the story, front page stuff, the various characters being introduced as part of newspaper copy. This immediately awakens an interest and credits the director, Lewis Milestone with having placed a "Milestone" in motion pictures, for certainly the opening footage of films, giving the "Who's Who" in the pictures presented, is the same old story which we have seen ever since films became feature pictures; and perhaps Milestone has started something different.

The story is centralized about the press room of the Criminal Court Building, where the reporters, from the various newspapers, are waiting to get a "big break," prior to the hanging of a convicted man, acclaimed for election purposes by the Mayor, as a "Red."

There are the various qualities of reporters, growling and grousing around, until like the proverbial "hounds" they smell out their prey, the escaped prisoner, "front page stuff," and go after a scoop regardless of any human equation involved.

It is a story that is right in line with all the psychological literature we are all so fond of discussing; and should prove an inspiration for "conversation," the right kind that starts the publicity which walks patrons right up to the box-office.

The surprises which are many, are thrilling, and the comedy element which is plentiful, together with the thread of a love-story, presents the old-fashioned motion picture full of something all the time--laughs, cries, excitement, action; right to the finish with its big laugh surprise. We are not going to analyse how true the "news hounds" are to the thoroughbred article, they are characters, with human interest, and on the Screen have the qualifications of appearing convincing!

Adolph Menjou has one of his good parts, that is a part in which he can do his usually polished work, which he certainly does. The cast throughout is top notch; and here let us go on record as chalking down, another Class A for United Artists, with "Front Page."

RAY LEWIS,

Editor, Canadian Moving Picture Digest.

"Fish--Fish--Stinking Fish"

THERE is a "Joker" in the proposed amendment of the Copyright Act, which is as much of a "red herring" as any political fish.

Exhibitors will remember that the Famous Players Canadian Corporation was so interested in fighting the demands of the Canadian Performing Right Society, that it inspired the formation of a Music Protective Association to help in the legal skirmishes which followed the attempts by the said Society to force Canadian theatre-owners to take out licenses from the Society for the music utilized in their respective theatres.

Exhibitors will remember that they were invited to join this Music Protective Association, and that Mr. N. L. Nathanson defended the case of the Famous Players Canadian Corporation, through legal counsel, in the various Court appeals. The decision was appealed by the Performing Right Society, until the highest tribunal in the British Empire, namely, the Privy Council, gave its decision, upholding the Canadian Copyright regulations, which demanded the registration of copyright assignments, to which requirement the Society had not complied.

THE VARIOUS legal actions is said to have cost Famous Players Canadian Corporation in the neighborhood of $30,000, but Mr. Nathanson and his directors thought this expenditure justifiable.

Since the Canadian Performing Right Society has become an equal part of the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers; and the Famous Players has become Paramount-Publix, the Society has not been having the opposition which it previously encountered.

Since the Famous Players promotion of the Music Protective Association, orchestras have disappeared from motion picture theatres, and vaudeville to a great extent has disappeared also, the Talking and Musical Picture, with its orchestral background, has replaced the Silent Film and orchestras.

IT IS common knowledge that the music utilized in motion pictures is controlled by the producers of pictures, through various affiliations with music publishers, and through the very composition of the music, by employees in the studios of the producers.

Why then should theatreowners be required to pay, in addition to a rental fee for public exhibition of a film, of which the music is an integral part, an additional fee to the Performing Right Society?

And why should the Famous Players Canadian Corp., when it was Canadian-controlled, spend thousands of dollars to fight a British company's alleged unfair demands, only to agree to the demands of this company when both become American in affiliation?

Word reaches us that the Executive of the Manitoba Managers Association have passed a resolution which has been forwarded on to Ottawa, requesting that the registration of copyright assignments be enforced, or similar legislation of equal protection; and here is the "Joker" in this resolution "such as the control of license fees by the Government."

NOW how would this "such" clause give the exhibitors such equal protection as contained in the requirements for the registration of Copyright Assignment?

What we would like to discover is who put the "Joker" in the resolution, and who is responsible for this "Joker," with which the Interests seeking amendment, are endeavouring to get rid of the registration legislation?

We might further inquire how many on the Executive of the Manitoba Managers Association are Famous Players' employees? "Fish — fish — stinking fish."

"Variety Has Said It"

THE DIGEST once upon a time saw "The Sorrows of Satan" and has felt sorry for this "fall guy," who fell from "a lofty height," ever since. That is one of the reasons which prompts The Digest to always give "the devil his due;" and regardless of the fact that Variety's ink on "the girl friend from Canada" was "wet all over," here is an instance in which "Variety" is right.

In the issue of Wednesday, May 13, our contemporary comments upon the Chaplin incident with a heading "If Chaplin had known about two ears and one mouth." The comments are as follows: "Charlie Chaplin, it is observed by some of the more learned solons, never would have gone on record abroad in the manner he has if he had heard of an old English actor, William Charles Macready.. That actor after doing some impolitic things at a dinner party, returned the same evening and wrote in his diary, "God gave us two ears and one mouth. It's a pity we don't take the hint."

"Although American filmdom has called many of its people on the carpet for things done in and around Hollywood, it does not consider itself involved or interested in the opinions expressed in Europe by any of its people, especially if such expressions are made about a country of which the spokesman is a citizen.

"It's Chaplin and not the American industry that pulled what filmdom's spokesman describe as a very bad boner. Advisors of Will Hays, however, feel that the Chaplin attitude is strictly personal between a King and his subject.

"From the American film point of view, Chaplin's utterances along socialistic lines do not violate any terms of the Hollywood codes.

Slurs

"Had Chaplin made the accredited slurs at patriotism and evidenced such alleged disrespect in any of his pictures—or should any company for that matter attempt even by inference such opinions in a feature talker—all such matter would be deemed offensive and ordered eliminated before the picture could be released.

"Hope that England will take the Chaplin declarations and actions as "the foolishment of a clown" is expressed in American film diplomatic circles."

CHAPLIN is evidently still a British subject; and until seventeen years ago, when he resided under the British flag he was no doubt as British as any other good Britisher, and as unknown as millions of Britishers.

We will not blame the American Motion Picture Industry for the refusal of Chaplin to recognize a "command performance" as an indication of Royal Favour, which artists of all nations have counted and considered a distinctive honour in any country!

Being transplanted may change one's viewpoint on patriotism; and if Chaplin feels that patriotism is a form of national insanity leading to war, as he has stated for publication, it simply means that this very fine and unique screen artist has not the attribute of patriotism!

IT IS SAID that environment plays a large part in the moulding of the character of individuals, and that Finance plays a still larger part in how the game of patriotism is played; but the United States gave birth to Lincoln, and other equally glorious men, who served their nation with religiously patriotic fervour; and in this same United States, with its exaggerated sense of money value as a symbol of Success, of achievement, there are noticeable patriots, not war-bent, wading through the Slough of Dollars to Real Values; and who proclaim their patriotism in service to their country!

(Continued on page 9)

The "Connecticut Yankee" Fox—Will Rogers played Second Week Tivoli to Great Business

British Films Saves Industry From Very Bad Slump

The Annual Report of the Cinematograph Exhibitor Association, which has a membership of 3,500 exhibitors, has an illuminating page in reference to British films:

British Films.

"The under supplied market and the process of concerted exploitation brought home to exhibitors the dangers and the costliness of dependence only upon outside sources for supplies. This is a danger that has been pointed out by your General Council on more than one occasion during the previous years. Mainly as a result of the support extended by exhibitors, British films had made enormous strides both before and following the Cinematograph Films Act, 1927. The often repeated assertion of the General Council that a considerable supply of British films kept the market for all pictures in a healthy state of competition for exhibitors, was proved to be abundantly true at the close of silent film days. There is not an exhibitor who does not look back with envy to those happy and profitable days. The talking picture came, of course, from America, and while talking pictures produced in America had the benefit of their home market for the recovery of their costs, together with additional revenue from this market, British films were denied entry into the American market. Consequently there was a time lag operating against British films until the number of British cinemas wired with talking apparatus was sufficient to make the production of British pictures a financially sound proposition. Fortunately for exhibitors, the British industry got into its stride just as the first American efforts had worn out their attractiveness. There is no need to go into the reasons in detail, but the freshness of the British picture saved the industry from a very bad slump, and the General Council has on more than one occasion congratulated the British producers on the success that has attended their efforts. British pictures also are likely to be the principal factor in saving the rental situation in 1931. Foreign production will reach a figure that will still leave the market somewhat under-supplied from the exhibitors' point of view. If exhibitors continue to encourage British films in the coming year in the same measure, or even greater, than they have done in 1930, the production of about one hundred films is a possibility which may easily be achieved. This number will be about 20 per cent of the number of foreign films upon the market, and, as will be readily appreciated, such an addition will have the effect of converting a market which would be somewhat tight to the happy state of a buyers' market. For that reason every member of the Association may be cordially recommended as part of his policy to support British films to the fullest extent he is able. It will also be remembered that it was a British firm that was the first to drop guarantees."

Death of W. J. Hellis, Sr.

W. J. Hellis, Sr., died in Killarney, Southern Manitoba, May 10, after a lengthy illness.

Mr. Hellis, who was the proprietor of the Lyceum Theatre, was born in London, Eng., in 1860. For more than 20 years he was employed in the tax department of the Great Western Railway at Paddington station, London. Coming to Western Canada in 1903, he located at Neepawa, Man., holding positions there as office manager for the Manitoba Milling Company and other business concerns. In 1916 he moved to Killarney and purchased the Lyceum moving picture theatre.

Mr. Hellis was interested in music, was bandmaster of the Neepawa band for 12 years, and held a similar position for several years in Killarney.

London Calling

British feature pictures are gradually coming into their own in Canada and, best of all, they are drawing splendid crowds wherever shown. The following letter to H. V. O'Connor, manager of Regal Films' Toronto exchange, from Tom Walton, of the National Theatre, in that city, is of interest:

"You will no doubt be pleased to learn that we have again broken our box office record, which was held by "Not So Quiet on the Western Front," and that it was another British International picture that did the trick. On Wednesday and Thursday of this week we broke the record made with the above picture by 62 people when we played "London Calling" to the largest attendance at the National Theatre since sound pictures came."

And Now--A Third Machine

Up to the present, it has been customary to equip even the largest theatres with two sound picture projection machines, but today with mammoth feature presentations and the necessity for smooth and continuous operation and the need for preparing against any emergency, two machines are considered inadequate and a third is now being installed in many of the leading theatres. The Palace in Montreal, the first Canadian house and one of the largest to be permanently equipped for Sound Pictures, is also the first to add the third equipped projector machine. The Royal in Valleyfield, Que., one of the smaller houses, holds second place. This installation was just completed last week by sound engineers of the Northern Electric Company, Ltd., — other similar installations are following shortly.

Island Park Theatre, Port Carling, Re-opens

The Island Park Theatre, Port Carling, Ont., reopened May 6th, with a new sound equipment system. Mr. George Temple, Jr., manager of the theatre states that The Island Park Theatre will have the latest pictures about the same time that they are playing in the city, and will also have the sound pictures before any of the surrounding towns.

"Variety Has Said It"

(Continued from page 8)

The British Empire has given birth to an army of patriots, who served the Empire without any material consideration, who lived in an exaltation of patriotic fervour, and who died regretting that they only had "one life to give." Not least among these was Disraeli, Lord Beaconsfield, and coming to Canada we find Sir John A. Macdonald, "Father of Confederation," who said, "A Britisher I was born, a Britisher I will die." Sir John was not alone in his desire to serve patriotically, nor is our present era devoid of similar patriots.

WHEN we are a little removed from present dates; and can, without political bias and emotion, form a clear perspective of history-making episodes of the Empire-building of today, we will find the name of the Rt. Hon. R. B. Bennett, the Prime Minister of Canada, in that glorious galaxy of men who served their Empire devotedly and unreservedly, and if these were "mad with patriotism," what is our glory that we remained sane?

Amendment Copyright Bill passes Second Reading now before Committee

Ray Presents

Continued from page 6)

Being modest, we are reluctant to talk about The Digest, but read it every week, it is full of titles and ideas for pictures, for instance if you look up your files, you will find May 18th, 1929, a quotation, "Little Caesar," in an editorial called "The Conquering Hero." Of course it may only be a coincidence that a picture in 1931 was released, and called "Little Caesar."

WE COULD mention innumerable other coincidences of a similar nature, but will rest our case at present by referring our readers to the May 11th issue of 1929, the editorial, "Up In the Clouds" from which we quote the following: "It is not so many years back since the word 'Radio' was only interpreted by exhibitors as 'Opposition,' or 'Competition.' Some of the little fellows shook their showmanship heads and kept on saying, "We don't like Radio, it's going to cut into our business."

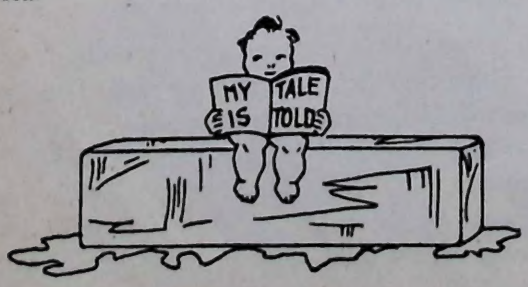
"Time has demonstrated that both little and big exhibitors were right. Radio has not only become a "competitor," or "opposition" through its home-work, but what it has done by way of revolutionizing this business, is to have foreseen the popular appeal of "Talking and Sound Pictures" stepping not only into the Motion Picture Industry, but right up to the front of it with an ambition to be "the leader of the band." A leader, not only figuratively speaking, but literally, through fields which not only supply the artists to producers, but which supplies equipment to producers and exhibitors, and is getting to the public more directly through the ownership of theatres.

"Shall I do a little prophesying, being an observer of "passing events?" Radio Corporation of America and its subsidiaries will control the field of amusement in America. This company will not miss a nickel, nor a dime in a field which gets the public at home; and in theatres, for the television with its talking pictures as an attachment to Radio is already upon the doorsteps of our home; and world events will also be flashed upon our screens from the same Radio stations."

"These exhibitors were not seeing into the future of "Talking and Sound Pictures." They were only prophetic in vision as Radio stepped into the home; and made the fireside more cheerful, more entertaining on nights which otherwise would have called to householders to sally forth in quest of entertainment.

"The bigger boys, like "Roxy," spoke eulogistically of Radio. Even publicly made declarations before listening exhibitors, that Radio helped Motion Pictures. Time has demonstrated that both little and big exhibitors were right."

In May of 1931, we hold to our former prophecy, that "R.C.A. will control the field of amusement in America."



New Theatre for Dartmouth, N.S.

A new theatre is to be erected in Dartmouth, N.S., the completion of which is planned for the early fall. The building of this theatre is to be financed by a new theatre company knowns as the Royal Theatres Limited. Shares are being offered, and the directors are as follows: President, H. R. Walker; Vice-President, C. G. Walker; Secretary-Treasurer, E. L. Teasdale; Directors, Ivan Haley and Fred Lahey.

The new company has acquired the leases and equipment of all the theatres at present in Dartmouth, and has purchased the Princess Theatre, at Imperoyal, all of which were formerly operated under the management of H. R. Walker.

Theatre Owner Robbed

Mr. L. Burde, owner of the Columbia Theatre, 64 West Hasting Street, Vancouver, B.C., was held up by an armed bandit near his home at 1225 Nelson Street, Thursday, May 7th, at 10 p.m.

It appears that Mr. Burde was returning to the apartment house where he resides, when the thug accosted him. Mr. Burde had with him the receipts of his theatre for the day, which the bandit promptly relieved him of. The amount of money taken was approximately $185.00.

Archie Laurie Leaves For Vancouver

Archie Laurie, who has for the past ten years been the city representative of the Regal Films Ltd., Toronto, was tendered a banquet on the evening of May 7th, at the Royal York Hotel, Toronto, on the eve of his departure to Vancouver to take up the position of office manager for Columbia Films. The members of the staffs of the Regal, Fox, Universal, Paramount, Columbia, First National, Warner Bros, and United Artists gathered to bid Mr. Laurie good-bye.

Talkies for Temple Theatre

The Temple Theatre, Blenheim, Ont., has closed its doors to the public for a few months. The Knight Brothers, owners of the Temple Theatre, announced that after much consideration they had decided to install talking equipment in the theatre. This will not only require installing the equipment, but re-building nearly the entire interior of the theatre. It is surmised that the theatre will again be open for business about September.

News Reel of Right Hon. R. B. Bennett

During the Dominion Conversion Loan Drive last week, the Rt. Hon. R. B. Bennett, Prime Minister of Canada, was seen on the screen in a newsreel three minutes in length. The reel is an interview with the Premier and his message concerning the Dominion Conversion Loan. This newsreel was seen in Famous Players' theatres.

3,500 British Exhibitors Annual Report credits British Pictures saving Industry from Bad Slump

The New Film on Broadway

By *Betty Ross*

"TOO YOUNG TO MARRY," based on Martin Flavin's play, "Broken Dishes;" directed by Mervyn Le Roy; a First National production.

A most amusing farce comedy that keeps its audiences in constant laughter is the pictorial version of Martin Flavin's play "Broken Dishes."

The Bumpsteads live in a dismal Western town. There are five of them, the mother, father and three daughters; Elaine, the Cinderella of the family, sympathizes with her father, who every night after dinner is forced by his wife to wash the dishes. Mrs. Bumpstead is constantly bemoaning the fact that she did not marry another man, named Chester Armstrong, instead of the meek Cyrus. She speaks of Chester Armstrong to her daughters in glowing terms. He was both a genius and an Adonis!

Cyrus bears with his wife, but one night while she and the two daughters who side with her are at a motion picture theatre, much happens in the Bumpstead home. Cyrus sneaks off to a lodge meeting of the Ancient Order of Secret Salamanders, where he encounters a stranger who has just come to town. This individual is none other than the much vaunted Chester Armstrong. Cyrus returns home the worse for drinking applejack and discovers Elaine has not washed the dishes as she promised. She is not thinking of such routine work, however, for Bill Clark, her sweetheart, whom Mrs. Bumpstead despises, is hidden in the parlor. Elaine and he are contemplating getting married that night, provided she obtains the consent of her father. Cyrus harkens to Elaine's plea, and soon the Rev. Mr. Stump appears at the home and performs the ceremony just before Mrs. Bumpstead and her daughters return. Meanwhile Cyrus has broken most of the dishes and Bill Clark has smashed a valuable vase, greatly prized by Mrs. Bumpstead. Hence, considering the wife's nature, it is no wonder that she is furious. To her dismay, however, Cyrus, the worm, turns, and he asserts himself with a vengeance.

The excitement is heightened by the appearance of Chester Armstrong, bent on selling oil stock. Mrs. Bumpstead, who fawns upon her old flame, is finally rebuffed by Mr. Armstrong, who calls her an old crow. At that moment he is aware that the police are hot on his trail, and the last seen of him is when he is arrested at the point of a pistol and one realizes that Mrs. Bumpstead's sweetheart of other days is a swindler who has spent many a year in prison and is known to the police by the sobriquet of Slick Chet.

Loretta Young, Emma Dunn and Richard Tucker give very fine performances.

* * * *

"THE FLOOD," based on a story by John Thomas Neville; directed by James Tinling; a Columbia picture.

The turbulent rushing of waters that destroy their confines and sweep everything in its unbridled flight is the high spot of the new talkie "The Flood." In a very unusual series of scenes depicting a steady rainfall with its tragic result of a flood, a realistic feeling of the awfulness of this situation is conveyed to the audience.

The story is of a love triangle in a small town where Joan is inveigled into the meshes of one Mr. Bannister who elopes with her but does not marry her as he promised. Joan leaves him and goes to another city to work. She falls in love with David Bruce, who had rescued her in one of the Mississippi floods, and they marry.

Bannister, the villain, continually annoys Joan, however, and makes himself decidedly unpleasant.

at the end, fate takes things in its own hands and washes Bannister away with the rest of the debris in a great flood. Joan is extricated from the angry waters just in the nick of time by her husband.

Eleanor Boardman and Monte Blue do the finest work in this picture, making this result in a very gripping and dramatic film.

* * * *

"DIE FORSTERCHRISTL," a German talking film with songs, produced by the Transocean Film Company; with Irene Eisinger, Paul Richter, Oskar Karlweis, Andre Pilot, Tibor von Halmay, Fritz Daghofer, Jelly Staffel and Adele Sandrock.

A graceful light-hearted film from Germany is amusing Broadwayites, especially those who are fortunate enough to understand the German language. As this is supposed to be an episode in the life of Mozart, there is a generous supply of his delightful melodies interspersed here and there.

Christl, romantic daughter of a forester on a royal game preserve of the Kaiser Joseph, reprimands a young hunter for attempting to shoot deer. Later, when her father is deprived by royal decree of a certain meadow, she journeys to Vienna to see what can be done about it. She discovers that the young hunter is the Kaiser Joseph himself. The King and the little country girl play at love, and the story of their romance gets back home. Her fiance, a lowly corporal, strikes a superior officer for intimating that Christl has become the Kaiser's mistress. For this the boy is sentenced to die. The Kaiser commutes the sentence and sends Christl back to her sweetheart with a wedding present.

Irene Eisinger sings beautifully in the role of Christl and the rest of the Teutonic cast is commendable.

* * * *

"L'ONDA E LO SCOGLIO" (The Wave and the Rock), a 3-act comedy by Alfred Vanni, preceded by Felice Cavalotti's 1-act play, "Ill Cantico del Cantici" (The Song of Songs), presented by the Teatro d'Arte under the direction of Giuseppe Sterni.

As beautiful as its name, "The Song of Songs" by expert calculation served as a very appropriate curtain raiser to the more sophisticated 3-act comedy "The Wave and the Rock," a recent and very well accepted arrival on Broadway. The first playlet also served as a sentimental prologue to the ironical connubial episode of the comedy that followed.

Mr. Sterni is unexcelled in his art. Interpreting the professor's comical desperation and desperate comedy, his amorous inclinations and droll contemplation of situations was highly enjoyable. Valentina Braschi as the masquerading daughter was very effective as was Italia Fatoni in her typical maid-of-all-work role.

We have too few foreign playlets of such calibre and capacity to entertain as "L'Onda E Lo Scoglio" and therefore it should not be missed by movie goers.

Provincial Treasurer The Hon. A. E. Dunlop announces Quota for Ontario if British Pictures not shown

Toronto Theatres

LOEW'S—Manager Jules Bernstein—Adolphe Menjou and Mary Brian in the United Artist production, "The Front Page." Adolphe Menjou is presented as the clever, suave, but perfectly cold-blooded managing editor of a newspaper, to whom his paper comes first. Pat O'Brien plays the part of a young star reporter, Hildy Johnson, who is engaged to marry Peggy, Mary Brian, but who is continually forced to break appointments with her, as the editor is always sending him out on some very important scoop, much to Miss Brian's disgust. However, Hildy decides to make a break, marry Peggy, and go to New York to start life anew, away from the newspaper game. Menjou gives them his heartiest congratulations, and even goes as far as to give Hildy his watch. But alas, all does not end well, as in the closing scenes, the editor, hearing of a good scoop, and thinking Hildy just the reporter for it, has the train stopped and Hildy arrested for stealing his watch. So back again to the old grind for Hildy. It is directed by Lewis Milestone.

UPTOWN—Manager Tom Daley—"The Prodigal," a Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer feature with Lawrence Tibbett. Jeffrey, played by Tibbett, is the prodigal son of a rather well-to-do southern family. He has harkened to "the call of the road" and become a tramp, travelling around with his two buddies, Doc, Roland Young, and Snipe, Cliff Edwards. Jeffrey returns home, and like the proverbial prodigal son, gets a very pleasant welcome, but a slight deviation from the original story is caused by the unpleasant welcome of his brother Rodman. Jeffrey saves Rodman's unhappy wife from eloping with a bounder, only to fall in love with her himself. Realizing that this state of affairs cannot go on, he leaves home and joins his pals. Tibbett's voice is as charming as ever, and fits right in with the southern atmosphere. Directed by Harry Tollard.

TIVOLI—Manager Jimmy Lynch—The second week for "A Connecticut Yankee" starring Will Rogers. It is produced by Fox Films Corporation, and directed by David Butler. The picture is still playing to capacity houses.

IMPERIAL—Manager H. V. Knevels — The irrepressible William Haines in a Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer production, "A Tailor Made Man." After being everything from a Polo player to a West Point Cadet, William Haines, condescends in this film to become a common but not ordinary presser called John. John is employed in a tailor shop, pressing trousers, and although of lowly condition aspires to win his employer's daughter, Tanya, Dorothy Jordan. Through ingenious methods he gets acquainted with the owner of a department store, and obtains an important position. John tries out a new idea to stop the depression, but before it materializes, Tanya's fiance jealous of Haines threatens to disclose Haines' identity. Haines beats him to it, tells who he is and resigns. John's plan succeeds and he not only gets back his position at a higher salary, but also gets Tanya. Directed by Sam Wood.

SHEA'S—Manager Jerry Shea — "The Conquering Horde," a Paramount production co-starring Richard Arlen and Fay Wray, with a supporting cast of Claude Gillingwater, and Ian MacLaren. Fay Wray, who is in charge of her late father's ranch, is having a great deal of trouble as she is very hard pressed for money. She sets out to drive the cattle to a distant city, in order to get a larger price for their sale. She is assisted by her childhood sweetheart, Richard Arlen. Directed by Edward Sloman.

M. P. Wetherell Resigns Theatre Managership

We are informed that Mr. M. P. Wetherell, formerly manager of the Famous Players Capitol Theatre, Kamloops, B.C., who was compelled to resign the management of this theatre owing to ill health, will not be able to resume his duties, but is taking a much-needed rest.

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Show Business

(Special to Digest from Ottawa)

Joe Franklin, manager of Keith's, Ottawa, was recently re-elected a director of the Royal Humane Society. He was also re-elected as a director of the Ottawa Rotary Club.

Dewey Bloom, M-G-M representative, put over some excellent work in connection with the road-show presentation of "Trader Horn" at the Imperial, Ottawa, the attraction setting a new record for the house. Bloom formerly resided in Hamilton, Ontario, but his headquarters are now in New York City.

Joe Lightstone, manager of the Princess, Montreal, for several years, has been appointed manager of the Orpheum, the home of dramatic stock. He has been succeeded at the Princess by Tom Cleary, formerly assistant manager.

Fred W. Robertson, proprietor of the Fern Theatre, Ottawa, has started on the construction of a neighborhood theatre at Bank Street and Euclid Avenue which will serve the Ottawa South District.

Myer Herschorn, brother-in-law of Joe Franklin, Ottawa, has acquired the Family Theatre at Halifax, which he has re-opened as the Imperial. He will continue the operation of the Community Theatre in Halifax. The Imperial has been equipped with the first installation in Canada of the R-C-A batteryless sound equipment.

Four officials of the Ottawa Operators Local were tried in the Police Court on charges of watching and besetting the Avalon, Columbia and Rexy Theatres after the union had maintained pickets at the entrances for eight weeks. Decision has been reserved by the magistrate.

(Special to Digest from Winnipeg)

The United Church presbytery of Winnipeg at its May meeting recommended that, in order to meet the demand for better moving pictures in Manitoba theatres, the standard of censorship should be raised so as to eliminate indecent and suggestive features. It was further advocated that the authority of the censorship board should be extended to include advertising in the newspapers and billboards.

Whether children under sixteen years of age should be permitted to see pictures formerly classed as "special" and hereafter to be termed as "adult," pursuant to a decision of the Manitoba Government last week, is one of the questions to be decided at a meeting of the Manitoba censor board which will be held shortly.

The meeting is being called by Hon. D. L. McLeod, municipal commissioner, and will be attended by representatives of the five organizations from whose membership appeal boards in Manitoba are appointed to review decisions of the Manitoba censor board.

Several, who have served on former appeal boards, have expressed the opinion that children under sixteen should not be permitted to attend screening of pictures which heretofore have been marked "special."

That careful censorship will more readily secure improvements in the class of pictures shown in Manitoba theatres than any other form of restriction or government regulation was the trend of opinion at a meeting held May 10 at the Manitoba legislative buildings, called by Hon. D. L. McLeod, municipal commissioner.

Although there was a long discussion, there was no decision as to what would be done, nor was there a definitely expressed opinion as to what action should be taken.

The meeting was attended by Mr. McLeod, Hon. R. A. Hoey, Minister of Education, and Hon. W. J. Major, Attorney-General, representing the Government; by members of the Manitoba Censor Board and representatives of the organizations from which the appeal boards are chosen. About 30 of the latter were present.

Representatives of the exhibitors expressed their opinions on three points which Mr. McLeod asked information. They were:

The advisability of establishing a quota of British films.

Regulations to prohibit children from attending pictures now classified as "special," and, in future to be classed as "adult," as a result of the decision reached last week.

Raising the children's age limit from 12 to 16 years.

All the exhibitors expressed themselves as satisfied to show British pictures provided they were available. Theatre owners, they claimed, were unwilling to take a chance on showing British pictures which were now available, as they feared they would be a losing proposition. At present, they claimed, there was not a sufficient number of suitable British pictures available to warrant the government fixing a quota figure.

Representatives of the rural and suburban theatres expressed strong opposition to any regulation prohibiting children from attending their shows. Their problems, they claimed, were different from those of the downtown houses in Winnipeg. At country points the shows were usually attended by several members of the family, and the prohibition against children would force the houses out of business. Owners were taking every precaution possible to select suitable films.

The recent decision changing the wording of the classification from "general" and "special" to "general" and "adult" has not yet come into effect. The government will decide first whether any further changes are necessary.

tures and short subjects.

e's Canadian Distributors

Round About the Studios

Production has started on Columbia's "Lover Come Back," adapted from the McCall's magazine story by Helen Topping Miller. Jack Mulhall and Constance Cummings are featured, with Erle Kenton directing.

The second generation of Carrs is going into the movies. May Beth Carr, Mary Carr's oldest daughter, is playing a featured role in "Models and Wives" at Universal City. This is the first George Sidney-Charlie Murray two-reel comedy for next year.

Emma Dunn, prominent Broadway star, has been signed by RKO Pathe for a prominent role in Eddie Quillan's new picture, temporarily titled "Whoop-Te-Do Kid," which Al Rogell is directing. Miss Dunn will be seen as a kind-hearted Irish matron in charge of a boarding house for jockeys.

Production on "Danger Island," the first of the serials on next season's lineup, starts this week at Universal City. Ray Taylor is directing, with a cast headed by Kenneth Harlan and including Lucile Browne, Tom Ricketts, William Thorne, Beulah Hutton, Andy Devine and Walter Miller.

"Blondie," in which Marilyn Miller is to be starred by First National, will go into production at an early date. Miss Miller arrived in Hollywood from New York last week, and casting for the picture already has begun. "Blondie" is an original written for Marilyn by Courtland Brown. It will be the first of three vehicles in which the star of "Sally" and "Sunny" is to be presented by First National during the coming season.

Three villainous gentlemen, on the screen, Fletcher Norton, Otto Hoffman and Charles Stevens, are the latest well-known picture players to be cast for Ramon Novarro's new Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer picture, "The Son of the Rajah," as directed by Jacques Feyder.

Canadian Branch Managers of R.K.O. Radio Pictures who attended the Company's Annual Sales Convention in Hollywood recently. Left to right—S. H. Decker, Winnipeg; Jack Allen, Toronto; A. L. Gaudet, St. John; Eddie Wells, Montreal; Percy Taylor, Canadian General Sales Manager.

Daphne Pollard's first RKO Pathe comedy on the new 1931-32 program has gone into production under the title of "She Snoops to Conquer." Fred Guiol is directing it from a story by Ewart Adamson.

Erin O'Brien Moore, the young actress who played for two and a half years in "Street Scene" in New York, London and Chicago, and who is now appearing in Elmer Rice's long-run play in Los Angeles, has been signed by Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer for motion picture work.

She will begin work at the studio as soon as the coast production of "Street Scene" ends its run.

"She Wears the Pants" is the new title of the Fox Film adaptation of the stage play, "Good Gracious, Annabelle," featuring Jeanette MacDonald and Victor McLaglen. It has been known previously as "Misbehaving" and "Two Can Play."

John Oscar, noted character comedian, and Fred Burns, well known cowboy star, have been awarded important roles in "Branded," tentative title of Columbia's latest Buck Jones outdoor "Special." Ross Lederman is directing this red-blooded action drama of the old West. Prominent among Jones' supporting players are Ethel Kenyon and Al Smith.

Robert Montgomery, the newst Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer star who reached the new level of popularity by his work in "Shipmates" and "Strangers May Kiss," will be seen in three starring films dur- . One of these will the Broadway stage ne," and another one he football romance,

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original nickname, like ions, is going to stick. d Hughes star, who nema horizon in "Hell's inue to be known as onde."

Grant Mitchell and Edward J. Nugent have just been assigned prominent roles in the forthcoming Warner Bros. picture, "The Star Witness," which is soon to start production at the West Coast studios. As previously announced, Frances Starr and Charles ("Chic") Sale are also to be featured in the picture, which is based on an original story by Lucien Hubbard.

"The Iron Chalice," one of the best Octavus Roy Cohen's serious novels, has been chosen as Bill Boyd's first starring feature on the new RKO Pathe production program. It will be placed in early production.

Spencer Tracy will have the leading role in "Ground Hogs," for United Artists. The picture will go into production shortly, with the air sequences being filmed at March Field, Riverside, Cal. "Ground Hogs" is only a tentative title.

"Side Show," the new comedy picture of circus life starring Winnie Lightner and Charles Butterworth, which is now being made at the Warner Bros. studios in California, has the following cast of principles: Pat, Winnie Lightner; Sidney, Charles Butterworth; Irene, Evalyn Knapp; Joe, Donald Cook; Pop, the circus owner, Guy Kibbee; Bearded Lady, Louise Carver; Whalen, Mathew Betz; Fat Lady, Ann Magruder; Santini, Luis Alberni; Jimmie, Edward Morgan. The picture is being directed by Roy Del Ruth.

Almost two years to the day from the time he made his debut at the Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer studio in "So This Is College," Robert Montgomery last week began work on the same lot in "The Man in Possession."

The new picture is an adaptation of the London and New York stage farce of the same name, and is being directed by Sam Wood, who also made "So This Is College."

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Ina Claire

In "REBOUND," from the Arthur Hopkins' great stage success.

Bill Boyd

In four productions, the first of which is "SUICIDE FLEET."

Eddie Quillan

In four productions, the first of which is "WHOOP-TE-DOO KID" (temporary title).

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